

Lewis (CA)  
Roukema

Sanders  
Shows

Stupak  
Walsh

□ 1232

Ms. BERKELEY and Mr. HONDA changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. BOYD, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky and Mr. SANDLIN changed their vote from "present" to "nay."

Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma and Mr. TURNER changed their vote from "present" to "yea."

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 78 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

##### H. RES. 78

*Resolved*, That it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of Wednesday, March 7, 2001, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules relating to the following measures:

(1) The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 31) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation and supporting National Donor Day;

(2) The bill (H.R. 624) to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation; and

(3) The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 47) honoring the 21 members of the National Guard who were killed in the crash of a National Guard aircraft on March 3, 2001, in south-central Georgia.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST) pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Yesterday, the Committee on Rules met and passed this resolution, providing that it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of Wednesday, March 7, for the Speaker to entertain motions to suspend the rules relating to the following measures: The concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 31, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow and blood donations and supporting National Donor Day; the bill, H.R. 624, to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation; and the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 47, honoring the 21 members of the National Guard who

were killed in the crash of a National Guard aircraft on March 3, 2001 in south-central Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution allows us to consider three important bills today under the expedited suspension procedure.

I must stress we have had several days to examine these bills, and they have been on the floor schedule for some time and they are noncontroversial. They are also important pieces of legislation.

We recently celebrated National Donor Day to encourage people to become organ donors. Today we will pass legislation to promote National Donor Day and help States organize their organ donor programs.

We will also honor, unfortunately, 21 members of the National Guard who died last week in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this rule and urge my colleagues to do the same. By passing this rule, we will improve organ donation programs and hopefully save some more lives.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats have no objection to this rule, which will allow the consideration of three bills under suspension today. Those bills include a concurrent resolution honoring the 21 members of the Virginia National Guard who were killed in a plane crash on March 3. I know firsthand how important the National Guard is to our national defense, and the tragic and untimely death of these fine Americans is tribute to the dedication and selfless service so many Americans make each year through their service in the National Guard.

The rule also permits the consideration of measures designed to promote organ donation, something Democrats on the Committee on Rules know about through the brave testimony of our ranking member, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY).

However, Mr. Speaker, I must take a moment to express our grave concerns about what may happen in the Committee on Rules some time later today. I am referring to the rule the Committee on Rules may report on the tax bill and how whether the majority will deny Democrats of all stripes the opportunity to offer alternatives to the Republican tax bill.

Mr. Speaker, we must object in the strongest possible terms to any plans the majority may have to cut off the ability of Members to offer one or more substitutes to this bill.

Mr. Speaker, not only are we going to consider a tax bill of huge proportion and consequences without the ability to offer alternatives, we are going to consider it without the benefit of having debated a budget which would place this tax cut in context

with the other matters this government funds.

We are going to consider a tax cut without fully understanding what its implications are on the rest of the Federal budget. So not only have we not received a budget from the new President, we have no congressional guidelines in place to help the Members of this body determine which priorities are more important.

Is it cutting taxes a lot, some or not at all? Is it paying down the national debt, which, I remind my colleagues, is a debt that is collectively owed by all the people of our great Nation?

Is it funding education, improving our schools, reducing class size or funding new teachers? Is it providing a real Medicare prescription drug benefit for our seniors, shoring up Social Security and Medicare or improving our national defense forces? No one knows the answer to those questions, Mr. Speaker.

Democrats in this House are very concerned that the Republican majority seems to not be concerned in the least that we are blindly proceeding down a path we have been on once before.

Mr. Speaker, I would just remind my colleagues, most of whom were not Members when we last considered a tax cut of these proportions, of the old adage, the definition of insanity is repeating the same actions and expecting different results. There are many of us here who fear we will see the same results as we saw after the passage of the 1981 tax bill.

Mr. Speaker, I support this rule, but Democrats on the Committee on Rules and in the Caucus at large want to go on notice right now that we believe it is imperative, if we are not to proceed in regular order in this body, that our Members be given a chance to be heard. All this talk of bipartisanship is meaningless, Mr. Speaker, if there are no actions behind the words.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to remind my colleagues that this rule is not about a tax cut.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair